



US31
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT



**Indiana Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration**

US 31

Improvement Project

Interstate 465 to State Road 38

**Draft Environmental
Impact Statement (DEIS)**

**Designation #9905500
June 2003**

US 31 Improvement Project (I-465 to SR38), Hamilton County, Indiana

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
AND
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332 (2)(c)

J. Bryan Nicol

J. Bryan Nicol
Commissioner
Indiana Department of Transportation

John R. Baxter, P.E.

John R. Baxter, P.E.
Indiana Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

June 3, 2003

Date of Approval

The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Ms. Janice Osadczuk, C.H.M.M., Chief
Division of Environment, Planning and Engineering
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 North Senate Avenue, Room N848
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2218
Telephone: 317-232-5468

Robert E. Dirks, P.E.
Environmental Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
575 North Pennsylvania Street, Room 254
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Telephone: 317-226-7492

The US 31 Improvement Project is located in Hamilton County, Indiana between I-465 North Leg and State Road (SR) 38, a distance of approximately 12.5 miles. It traverses the City of Carmel, Clay Township, the Town of Westfield, and Washington Township. Interstate 465 was designated as the southern project terminus because it represents a major origin and destination point for US 31. SR 38 was designated as the northern project terminus because it represented an additional significant east-west arterial that intersected with US 31 north of Westfield. Transportation improvements to US 31 from I-465 to SR 38 are needed for traffic capacity and safety needs. US 31 has been designated as a "Statewide Mobility Corridor" as well as an important "Commerce Corridor" by the State of Indiana. It is also part of the National Highway System (NHS). Improvements to the US 31 corridor between I-465 and SR 38 have been identified in the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 2025 Regional Transportation Plan. Based on an analysis of impacts to natural resources, agricultural land, prime farmland soils, and the ability to satisfy the purpose and need, Alternatives F1 through F6, utilizing the existing alignment, have been identified as the preferred group of alternatives. Following the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) public comment period, a single preferred alternative will be selected and presented in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

Comments on this Draft EIS are due by August 4, 2003 and should be sent to Cory Grayburn, Deputy Project Manager at Parsons Transportation Group, 11405 North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 100, Carmel, Indiana 46032. Comments may also be submitted through the US 31 Improvement Project website at <http://www.us31indiana.com>. A public hearing will be held on June 30, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dale E. Graham Auditorium, Carmel High School, 520 East Main Street, Carmel, Indiana.

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